



Attorney Docket No. 33565/US
Express Mail Label No. EV 410 059 960 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Anne J. Osinga

Application No.: 10/687,731

Filed: 16 October 2003

For: POWER CONVERSION UNIT AND METHOD OF
PROVIDING POWER TO A WINDOW COVERING

Confirmation No.: 4647

Group Art Unit: 2837

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3) and § 1.98

Sir:

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits.

The Examiner is requested to consider the references noted on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 during examination of the above-identified patent application. These references are submitted for the Examiner's consideration and are submitted pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. In submitting these references, no representation is made or implied that the references are or are not material to the examination of the application. The Examiner is encouraged to make his or her own determination of materiality. Copies of the references are provided.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)(i), any information disclosure statement filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 shall include a concise explanation of the relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, of each patent, publication or other information listed that is not in the English

language. The concise explanation may be either separate from the specification or incorporated therein.

In compliance with the rule, concise explanations of the relevance of the non-English references are as follows:

European Patent No. 0 924 379 discloses a motor driven tape drum for a blind or awning. The motor is built in the housing of the tape drum. The unit comprises an electronic rectifier circuit and the motor is a DC-motor.

European Patent No. 1 020 613 discloses a housing for a drive unit for a blind. The housing fits into the head rail of a blind. In the housing can be mounted an electromotor and other parts for driving the blind. The housing can be made of several materials, but aluminum is preferred. The housing can function as cooling element for the electronic parts.

European Patent No. 1 091 078 discloses a drive unit for a blind that fits into the blind head rail. The unit comprises an electric blind drive motor and control circuits. The unit can be directly plugged into the main power supply (220v). The blind drive motor is a DC-motor, and the unit comprises an electronic rectifier circuit, (col. 2, lines 18-30).

German Patent No. 2 160 820 discloses a combined bearing unit and switch device (2) is physically, as well as electrically, connectable to a motor housing (6).

German Patent No. 1 942 815 discloses a movement limit switch (12, 13) incorporated in a motor housing (10).

German Patent No. 7 232 818 U discloses a condensor (5) provided with a through bore for the passage of a drive shaft (4). A heat barrier (7) is additionally interposed between the motor (2, 3) and the condensor (5).

German Patent No. 1 763 272 discloses a housing for an electric motor (3), which additionally encloses switch gear (5a, 5b) for determining the end positions for the blind movement.

Swiss Patent No. 666 084 discloses a motor house, incorporating a condensor (50) with a through bore (52) for the passage of a drive shaft (20).

Swiss Patent No. 686 197 discloses a drive unit for a blind. The unit fits into a blind head rail (col. 1, lines 26-30). As shown in Fig. 1, a single power feed line is shown for the unit. The motor is an electromotor.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), no fees are due with respect to this filing. However, if any fees are deemed necessary, such fees may be charged to Deposit Account No. 04-1415.

If the examiner has any questions, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated: 23 January 2004.

Respectfully submitted,



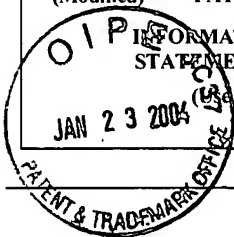
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Enclosures

cc: HDI and HDBV (HZ-109.10-353)

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Modified) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 33565/US	APPLN. NO. 10/687,731
	APPLICANT: Anne J. Osinga	
	FILING DATE 16 October 2003	GROUP 2837



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLISHED DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	0 924 379	6/23/1999	EP				
	1 020 613	7/19/2000	EP				
	1 091 078	4/11/2001	EP				
	2 160 820	5/10/1973	DE				
	1 942 815	05/18/1972	DE				
	7 232 818 U	04/05/1973	DE				
	1 763 272	08/27/1970	DE				
	666 084	11/22/1984	CH				
	686 197	05/05/1992	CH				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.